



1-9-06

1-9-06

Express Mail No. EV475142198US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Hehli et al. Confirmation No.: 2490
Serial No.: 10/694,846 Art Unit: 3736
Filed: October 29, 2003 Examiner: To be assigned
For: OSTEOSYNTHETIC DEVICE Attorney Docket No: 8932-802-999

REQUEST FOR STATUS OF APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

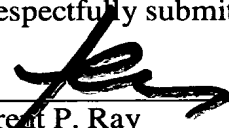
Sir:

The above-identified patent application was filed on October 29, 2003. To date, no office action on the merits has been issued. Since it has been over two years since the application was filed, please advise the undersigned of the status of the application. In particular, please advise of the expected date for receipt of the first office action.

If there are any questions regarding this request or the application in general, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 5, 2006


Brent P. Ray
JONES DAY
222 East 41st Street
New York, New York 10017
(212) 326-3939

54,390
(Reg. No.)